

REMARKS

Prior to this Reply, Claims 1-72 were pending. Through this Reply, Claims 37-49 have been cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter contained therein.

Accordingly, Claims 1-36 and 50-72 are now at issue in the present case.

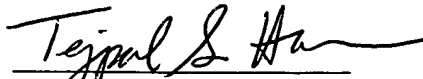
In the Office Action, the Examiner determined that the claims are directed to two patentably distinct groups of inventions, namely: Claims 1-20, 21-36 and 50-72 (Group I) drawn to recording segments with a start and an end with coherent rotational phases, classified in class 360, subclass 48; and, Claims 37-49 (Group II) drawn to a seek operation to control the actuator movement along the tracks, classified in class 360, subclass 77.06. Accordingly, the Examiner required Applicants to elect a single group for prosecution on the merits.

In response, Applicants elect the claims of Group I (Claims 1-20, 21-36 and 50-72) for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled Claims 37-49 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter contained therein.

Applicants believe that no fees are due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2198 for any fees associated with filing this paper.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number regarding any matters relating to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Tejpal S. Hansra
Registration No. 38,172
Hansra Patent Services
4525 Glen Meadows Place
Bellingham, WA 98226
(360) 527-1400

Date: APRIL 25, 2003

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 37-49 have been cancelled.